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A HISTORY OF NURSING

DEAR EDITOR: If you can spare me a little space I would like to say a word about the "History of Nursing," by Miss Nutting and Miss Dock. I don't believe the nurses realize what a splendid book that is. I know I had not given it a thought until I read what Sister Agnes Karll said about it in the little German nursing paper, and now that I have read the book myself, I know she did not say too much in its praise. So highly do they esteem the book over there, that they have had two editions published in small parts to be loaned to their sick sister nurses, who would not be able to hold up a heavy book in bed.

Every nurse ought to read that book and own it if possible, for it is an inspiration and that is what we need, we who have been toiling for years, we need it to keep ourselves up to the high standard we started out with that day we left the sheltering walls of our beloved hospital.

Massachusetts.

B. E.

NURSING TEXT-BOOKS IN SPANISH

I.

DEAR EDITOR: I was much interested in the letter from Miss Bertha Moeri, of Peru, South America, asking for information about text-books on nursing in Spanish. Some years ago when training nurses in Porto Rico I found myself in the same quandary, and hearing that a translation of Mrs. Hunter Robb's book on nursing had been made, I wrote her asking for information. Her answer was as prompt and her offers of help as cordial as her friends would have known they would be. She wrote me that the translation had been made under the supervision of Miss Mary Agnes O'Donnell, superintendent of a hospital in Cuba, and copies could be obtained at the "Imprenta de Rambla y Bonya," Obispo 35, Habana, Cuba.

I have written Miss Moeri and have sent her another book written by Miss O'Donnell, "Notas sobre Conferencias a las Enfermeras," published at the same place, but write to you thinking there may be others who would be helped by knowing of these books.

Washington.

LOUISA C. LIPPETT, R.N.

II.

DEAR EDITOR: In the March number of my JOURNAL I find a letter from Miss Bertha Moeri, of Lima, Peru, S. A., in which she makes inquiry concerning text-books in Spanish for use in teaching nurses. I have much sympathy for Miss Moeri, having struggled with the same problem myself. I am a missionary nurse in charge of a training school for Porto Rican nurses.

Recently the "Practical Nursing," written by the Misses Maxwell and Pope, has been translated into Spanish and published by the government of Porto Rico. It is in use in the "Insular School for Trained Nurses" as well as here. The superintendent of that school, Miss Pilar Cabrera, did the translating and has a number of copies for sale. Miss Cabrera's address is "Insular School for Trained Nurses," San Juan, Porto Rico. Appleton publishes an anatomy which can be used in the teaching of nurses, it is called "Anatomía, Fisiología é Higiene de Appleton." This same company also pub-

lishes a smaller and simpler book, called "Nociones de Fisiología," written by Dr. M. Foster and translated by Dr. Antonio Soler. In this same series, there is a small book on bacteriology, called "Nociones de Microbiología," which can be used as a reference book if one aspires to such a library.

Teaching in a language which is not one's own and without the help of proper text-books is a proposition which is at times discouraging, so that all the help which we who are in such work can give each other ought to be appreciated. I shall look for other answers to Miss Moeri's questions with much interest, hoping to get further help for myself.

Porto Rico.

M. LOUISE BEATY.

NATIONAL PENSION FUND

DEAR EDITOR: I am so glad the question of providing for disabled nurses has been brought up by you for discussion and is to be reported on by a committee at the May meeting. Could we not through the JOURNAL make the nurses well acquainted with the necessity of doing the best thing in this direction before that time?

The plan of a national pension fund seems ideal, but it is, as you say, big,—so big, metaphorically speaking, we can hardly see over it at first. Do you think it would be best to make it also "sick benefit"? Our sick nurses are much more easily dealt with; it is the incapacitated and older nurses for whom we need to do something more. Of course cases of continued illness could come under this head.

How would it be to call it "R.N. Annuity Fund" instead of Old Age or Pension, and what would be the plan in detail? for the nurses to pay yearly to their respective alumnae associations a sum, and this be forwarded to a committee of the Associated Alumnae? Could we not for this purpose give entertainments, receive contributions, and in every legitimate way increase our fund? The most difficult part would seem to be the administration, but not any more so than with other organizations,—there are plenty of precedents to go by, and much more stupendous.

If every nurse in our Associated Alumnae were to act, in three years we should certainly have enough to begin paying the most urgent cases. As our organizations advance in professional interest, we should also advance in dealing with those responsibilities which cannot be ignored. We do not want to appeal through the daily newspapers, as you say. We *can* take care of our own, as other organizations do. Hitherto there has not been so much necessity, but now that there is, let us co-operate and magnanimously meet it.

ADELAIDE SHARPE, R.N.,
Graduate of St. Luke's, Chicago.

A NURSE NEEDED

DEAR EDITOR: I have had an appeal, from an Episcopal clergyman with whom I am personally acquainted, for trained nurses to locate in Wisconsin, in a place of 16,000 inhabitants, which field also includes an area of 100 miles in surrounding country. A graduate nurse may get plenty of work at \$25 a week. Particularly is a graduate wanted who will do hourly nursing while not otherwise engaged. As a compensation, she may have a room in the Infirmary, free (a small hospital of four or five beds, for eye,